



UNIVERSITY of
LOUISIANA
L A F A Y E T T E

INTERIM FACE COVERING POLICY

Policy # PR.001.1

Responsible Executive: President
Environmental Health

Responsible Office: and Safety
6/4/2021

Originally Issued: 6/4/2021

Latest Revision: 6/4/2021

- I. [Policy Statement](#)
- II. [Purpose of Policy](#)
- III. [Applicability](#)
- IV. [Definitions](#)
- V. [Policy Procedure](#)
- VI. [Enforcement](#)
- VII. [Policy Management](#)
- VIII. [Exclusions](#)
- IX. [Effective Date](#)
- X. [Adoption](#)
- XI. [Appendices, References, and Related Materials](#)
- XII. [Revision History](#)

I. Policy Statement

Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, and the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, the Governor of Louisiana has declared a statewide public health emergency to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the continued threat posed by COVID-19. The health and safety of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (“University”) campus community during the COVID-19 pandemic is the University’s priority. To promote a healthy and safe campus, the University requires that Face Coverings be worn indoors on University property at all times, subject only to the exemptions described in this Interim Policy.

II. Purpose of Policy

All individuals, with the exception of fully Vaccinated employees not engaged in a classroom setting, are required to wear Face Coverings over their mouths and noses in all indoor spaces while on University property unless alone in their own private office or workspace. This requirement applies to all University campuses and inside University buildings, including classrooms, public restrooms, lobbies, cafeterias, conference rooms, open office and common spaces, hallways, meeting rooms, libraries, theaters, and other indoor spaces. Fully Vaccinated employees, not engaged in a classroom setting, are encouraged, but not required, to wear Face Coverings indoors on University property.

It is recommended, but not required, that individuals wear Face Coverings outdoors while on the University property.

A. Face Coverings

For the purposes of this Interim Policy, a Face Covering must:

1. Fit snugly against the sides of the face;
2. Completely cover the nose and mouth;
3. Be secured with ties, ear loops, elastic bands, or other equally effective method;
4. Include at least one (1) layer of cloth, although multiple layers are strongly recommended;
5. Allow for breathing without restriction;
6. Be free of holes, tears, gaps, mesh, lace, or valves (other than approved NIOSH rated N95 masks) that have the potential to release respiratory droplets;
7. If a cloth Face Covering, be capable of being laundered; and
8. Disposable surgical masks are acceptable for day use, and should be thrown away after one (1) use.

Face shields cannot be used in place of Face Coverings but may be used in addition to Face Coverings. Physical distancing nor Vaccination status of the involved individuals changes the requirement for Face Coverings on University property.

B. Face Covering Guidelines

The following Face Covering guidelines will apply to all individuals on University property:

1. Students, faculty, and staff may use Face Coverings provided by the University or supply their own.
2. Fully Vaccinated employees are not required to wear Face Coverings unless engaged with students or in a classroom setting. Employees who are not fully Vaccinated are required to wear Face Coverings indoors on University property and may only remove Face Coverings when alone in their own offices or enclosed workspaces.
3. Students are required to wear Face Coverings in all University buildings, including but not limited to academic buildings, administrative buildings, club offices, Edith Garland Dupré Library, Student Union, classrooms, laboratories, and shared offices/study spaces.
4. Students may remove Face Coverings in their own residence hall rooms or apartments.
5. Students are required to wear Face Coverings in residence halls when gathered in any room with people other than their roommates.
6. Individuals who enter University buildings, shuttles, or buses without a Face Covering will be asked to put on a Face Covering or leave the building, shuttle, or bus, respectively.
7. Individuals may remove Face Coverings when actively eating or drinking. Individuals are encouraged to maintain physical distance from others while eating or drinking and mask up as soon as they are finished.
8. Individuals participating in indoor sporting activities (e.g., indoor University Athletics events, intramural sports, exercising at Bourgeois Hall, etc.) may remove Face Coverings only during active participation in the sporting activity. All inactive participants, coaches, staff, and spectators must wear Face Coverings while attending any indoor sporting activity.

9. Individuals participating in indoor live entertainment (e.g., indoor performances by the University band, indoor performances by the College of Arts or outside entities, indoor live music such as and including wind instruments and singing, etc.) may remove Face Coverings only during active performance in the live entertainment activity. All inactive participants, staff, and spectators must wear Face Coverings while attending any indoor live entertainment activity.
10. Regardless of Vaccination status, Face Coverings must be worn while awaiting, boarding, disembarking, or traveling in all University shuttles, buses, and University-owned vehicles shared by more than one (1) individual, and in private vehicles shared by more than one (1) individual while conducting University business.
11. Regardless of Vaccination status, Face Coverings are required to be worn in on-campus health care facilities, including but not limited to Student Health Services.
12. Cloth Face Coverings should be washed and fully dried after each day's wear. Appropriate cleaning of the Face Covering is the responsibility of the individual.
13. Guests, visitors, vendors, tenants, customers, and contractors will be expected to honor these guidelines and, in some cases, provide their own Face Covering to keep the University community safe.

C. Accountability

Public health is everyone's responsibility. The University is relying on members of its community to adhere to and assist with enforcing these standards of behavior. Members of the University community should speak up if they encounter someone violating this Interim Policy. For example, using an informal, personal intervention with friends and colleagues, such as saying "Mask up" may often be a good reminder. Faculty, student organizations, and office teams should clearly define how they will enforce this Interim Policy in their spaces.

III. Applicability

This Interim Policy applies to all University faculty, staff, students, contractors, vendors, tenants, customers, guests, and visitors, on University property, including campus residence halls, in University-owned vehicles, and in private vehicles with more than one (1) passenger while conducting University business, unless specifically exempted below.

IV. Definitions

1. **Face Covering**: is a non-medical mask or cloth or disposable Face Covering worn over an individual's nose and mouth to protect the spread of COVID-19.
2. **Vaccination/Vaccinated**: is an injection of a COVID-19 vaccine which occurred at least two (2) weeks beyond receiving a full administration of such vaccine.

V. Policy Procedure

N/A

VI. Enforcement

Individuals who fail to wear Face Coverings as required may be reported for non-compliance to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (students) or the Office of Human Resources (employees) and disciplined under the appropriate Code of Conduct provisions. Visitors and third-parties who do not adhere to this Interim Policy may be asked to leave University property. The University may utilize existing policies, including but not limited to policies related to behavior that endangers self or others, for enforcement when intentional or unintentional violations of this Interim Policy occur.

VII. Policy Management

Upon adoption, the President shall be the Responsible Executive for this Interim Policy in charge of the management of this Interim Policy. The Environmental, Health and Safety Director is the Responsible Officer for this Interim Policy. The Environmental, Health and Safety Office is the Responsible Office for this Interim Policy.

VIII. Exclusions

Individuals who are unable to wear Face Coverings due to a medical or behavioral condition or disability may seek a reasonable accommodation. Students who require accommodations must be registered with the Office of Disability Services and contact disability@louisiana.edu for next steps. Employees experiencing difficulty wearing or using Face Coverings due to a documented health condition should contact the EEO/ADA Coordinator at hrcompliance@louisiana.edu for possible reasonable accommodations. In addition, speakers and/or faculty/instructors may briefly remove their Face Covering while giving official university speeches/presentations if maintaining physical distance of at least six (6) feet from others and abiding by other existing safety protocols.

IX. Effective Date

This Interim Policy shall be effective on May 25, 2021 and shall remain in effect for six (6) months or until withdrawn or revised.

X. Adoption

This Interim Policy is hereby adopted 6/4/2021.

DocuSigned by:

Joseph Savoie

1405E1487C93461...

Dr. E. Joseph Savoie
President

XI. Appendices, References, and Related Materials

- ✦ [Louisiana Executive Proclamation Number 93 JBE 2021](#)
- ✦ [CDC Guidance for Wearing Masks](#)

✦ [CDC Order: Wearing of face masks while on conveyances and at transportation hubs](#)

✦ [Louisiana Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccination and Masking Requirements](#)

XII. Revision History

✦ Original adoption date of Interim Policy: 6/4/2021.